BRIGHAM

DUP THE NEW

SPIRAL SPRING PESSARY,

VICH

ITS APPLICATION AS A REMEDIAL AGENT,

FOR

Prolapsus, or Falling of the Womb,

AND

OTHER DISPLACEMENTS OF THE FEMALE PELVIC ORGANS.

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MRS. BRIGHAM,

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PHILADELPH AS MERRIHEW & SON, PROF.
No. 243 Arch Street.

1867



An Important Address to Ladies,

Reader, in presenting you with this circular, it is my wish to speak to you frankly and truthfully. One object in publishing this, is that of making known the applicability of one of the most valuable inventions that has ever been applied for the relief of woman. The sufferings to which I was for years subjected, for want of a proper appliance in the medical profession, rendered it necessary for me to exert myself in contriving something for my relief.

Accordingly, after having been treated for years by many of the ablest physicians of New York City and other places, and all to no purpose, in the midst of despair I happened upon a plan which gave me some promise of help. My affection was that of Prolapsus, or falling of the womb, that direful disorder which consigns so many females to lives of loathsomeness and gradual decay. After years of suffering and after having submitted to the tortures of the various appliances of my physicians, and learning from actual experience, that impressive school of knowledge, the supposed philosophy of action of all the various pessaries or womb supporters, I resolved, after many anxious hours of thought in reference to my condition and cure, to study, and observe for

myself in regard to the different appliances; and even experiment in my case, until I either became satisfied that my efforts were vain, or, that they would become of avail. Finally, the Spiral Spring Pessary was the reward of my anxious toils and study." Nothing but the powerful conviction I received. from trial, of the utter inapplicability and worthlessness of all the supporters or pessaries then known to the profession, and the duty I felt in regard to doing for myself, gave me the courage and strength to persevere for a long time in the pursuit of this plan for relief. Fortunately my efforts were crowned with success, and such a one as is no where paralleled in the history of such inventions. All human kind. and especially woman, will learn to bless this discovery, and look upon it as an occurrence for their special good. The Spiral Spring Pessary, in the form which I have completed, was first suggested to my mind in a crude and scarcely practical design, but after a length of time had been spent in experimenting in my own case, I succeeded with the article, the engraving of which I herewith present for your inspection. (See back of Cover.)

Long before I had arrived at such completeness in the adaptability of this article, it had given relief in my own case, and in a manner so apparently magical, that I resolved, for the good of my sex who were afflicted like myself, to further complete it, and also present it to my suffering friends. I have done so, and more; my efforts have, on every hand, so far, met with happy terminations, for besides my own perfect cure I have been the means, through this invention, of curing many who were suffering from the same affliction. I now commend it to the consideration of the public, and feel confident, that if the many females who suffer from prolapsus or falling of the uterus will give it a trial, they will feel thankful, as I do, for such a boon to the female sex.

Special Notice.

The Spiral Spring Pessary has now been well tested, and has given instant and permanent relief in a large number of cases.

A lady residing on Eighteenth street, New York City, suffered for ten years from frequent attacks of congestion of the uterus, followed by displacement and neuraliga of the parts, which often confined her to her bed for months at a time. By the advice of her physician she tried many of the different pessaries then in use, but could wear none of them with any degree of comfort or benefit. I presented her with one of my pessaries, adjusted it for her, and she

wore it during the day without the slightest inconvenience; I removed it for her at night, (which is always necessary,) and the next morning replaced it, and although she had not been able to go from her room for three months, she on that day walked a distance in the street, and continued to improve, and is now perfectly well. She has many times expressed her gratitude, and says she "would not part with it, as it was the comfort of her life;" any lady who has been a sufferer from the same cause can appreciate fully the expression of her feelings.

Another lady in the same city had suffered years with chronic prolapsus; being obliged to attend to duties which kept her on her feet most of the day, she was recommended to wear a pessary continually. She tried several different kinds, but they all increased the difficulty-some, from their immense size, distending the vagina, others, from their respective faults, proving equally obnoxious. I gave her one of the Spring Pessaries. She at first doubted the possibility of being benefitted by so small an instrument. She, however, wore the pessary, commencing with the largest size. She soon began to improve in health; the vagina contracting to its natural size, she was enabled to wear a smaller instrument, and soon after the necessity for wearing the pessary at all was removed. She is now entirely well, and owes

her restoration to this pessary. Another lady who had this difficulty, also ulceration, caused by improper pessaries, was cured by my Spring Pessary in a short time. In this case cotton wool was medicated and placed into the cup of the pessary in order to come in contact with the ulcerated parts.

If ladies wishing to try this Pessary will call at my rooms, I will insert it for them, being fully competent, from long experience, to do so. If they require medical treatment in conjunction with the pessary, they can consult their own physician or the one in attendance at my room from 11 A. M. to 12 M.

MRS. BRIGHAM,

No. 1320 Chestnut St., Philadelphia,

Second floor, front room. Open from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

Of the Use and Adaptation of the Spiral Spring Pessary.

This Pessary consists simply of a silver spirally coiled wire of about 21 inches in length, from the lower end of which passes a stem of the wire about one inch long, to which is fastened a linen strap to keep the pessary in place, one end of which passes anteriorly and the other posteriorly in a vertical manner to the waist, where they meet and fasten to another strap or girdle, which is buckled around the waist. By this means the instrument is retained in a secure and perfectly comfortable position. The upper end of this spring or coil of wire has attached to it a soft rubber cup, into which the lower end or mouth of the uterus is received, and in which it rests in an easy and natural position. Through this cup the secretions will pass and be carried off by means of the tube passing from the cup down into the wire coil. By allowing the secretions to thus pass away, corrosion and irritation of the parts are avoided. The arrangement is so plain and simple, and yet so perfect, that it can be inserted by the patient herself with all ease, and by her can be removed and cleansed as frequently as desired without inconvenience or trouble. This is one other grand point gained, which of itself places it in superiority over every other article of the kind in use. Another superior point of its usefulness is that the cup, which forms the upper end of the pessary, is such as will conveniently admit of cotton wool, or other soft substance being placed within it, which can be saturated with medicated fluids or ointments, for the direct medication af the womb. This is a consideration of no small import, as it frequently becomes necessary for this to be done, particularly in ulceration of the parts. By medication in this way, it saves in many cases special operations for this purpose.

The disadvantages of most all the Pessaries in use are

- 1st. They are indelicate
- 2d. If too small they will be forced out and do no good.
- 3d. They cause inflammation and induration or hardness of the uterus, if large, also "whites' ulceration and cancer.
- 4th. They dilate or enlarge the passage and often become incrusted and difficult to remove without breaking.
- 5th. From long wearing they have been known to make their way through the walls of the vagina into the rectum. None of these disadvantages attend the use of the *Spiral Spring Pessary*, which I have

above described, for the following reasons: Firstly, they are small, soft and elastic, and yield to pressure; hence they cause no inflammation, ulcers, cancer or induration. Secondly, they can be inserted, removed and replaced by the patient herself; hence they can be kept perfectly clean, and from becoming incrusted or hard. Thirdly, they do not subject the patient to the charge of the medical attendant for life, as do those they cannot manage themselves. Fourthly, they can be used when there is laceration of the perineum, etc., when no ordinary pessary can be retained. In all cases this article can be worn when the patient is going about, and it will enable her to perform duties in walking, etc., without unpleasant feeling or injury to the parts. This cannot be accomplished by any other now in use. Fifthly, by the use of this pessary, patients are not only enabled to perform their household duties with ease and comfort, but to take walking exercise, which is positively necessary to the cure of those affections. Many cases of supposed spinal disease are the result of prolapsus of the womb, and a great majority of such cases, even after years of inability to go about, can be entirely cured by the Spiral Spring Pessary, or Womb Supporter.

A liberal deduction made to Physicians and Druggists.



